

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 PM-07 H-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 COA-02 OIC-04 ACDA-19 EB-11

COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 INT-08 CG-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 798

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS: SEABED COMMITTEE MEETING:

U.S. STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL STRAITS

FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED TO SUBCOMMITTEE II
OF COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE SEABED AND
THE OCEAN FLOOR BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURIS-
DICTION BY JOHN R. STEVENSON, CHAIRMAN OF U.S.
DELEGATION ON JULY 25, 1973. BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN:

ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO, MY DELEGATION INTRODUCED
DRAFT ARTICLES DEALING WITH THE TERRITORIAL SEA AND
STRAITS USED FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION. SINCE
THAT TIME OTHER PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE AND
POSITIONS ELABORATED, TO WHICH WE HAVE RESPONDED.
ACCORDINGLY, I WILL COMMENT ONLY BRIEFLY ON SOME
POINTS REGARDING STRAITS AT THIS TIME.

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FIRST, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OR MISUNDERSTANDING

REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE MY DELEGATION ATTACHES TO THE SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF TRANSIT THROUGH AND OVER STRAITS IN THE CONTEXT OF A SATISFACTORY OVERALL LAW OF THE SEA SETTLEMENT. OUR VIEWS IN THIS REGARD HAVE BEEN STATED ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS, AND I NEED ONLY REAFFIRM THEM NOW.

SECOND, THE TIME HAS LONG PASSED WHEN WE CAN AFFORD THE LUXURY OF DEBATING MOTIVES IN THIS COMMITTEE. NO RIGHT OF A STATE--TO USE ITS TERRITORY OR TO USE THE SEAS--IMPLIES THAT IT CAN DO AS IT PLEASES WITHOUT REGARD TO G.V. LAUK, B.C. MINISTER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT STATES CANADIAN TARIFF ON PLYWOOD SHOULD BE HIGHER TO PROTECT B.C. PRODUCERS FROM DUMPING BY U.S. COMPANIES. GILLESPIE REPLIED CANADIAN OVERALL OBJECTIVE WAS TO MOVE FOR FREER TRADE RATHER THAN TO APPLY RESTRICTIONS.

6. LAUK (B.C.) TOOK LEAD IN PRESENTING WESTERN VIEWS ON FISHERIES AND FISHING, EMPHASIZING NEED FOR INCREASED HATCHERY CONSTRUCTION, EXTENDED FISH FARMING, AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO WEST COAST FISHING INDUSTRY. HE ALSO DIRECTED ATTENTION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO B.C. CONCERN OVER "LACK OF CONSIDERATION ON PART OF UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. ON POSSIBLE OIL SPILLS THAT COULD BE EXPERIENCED IF ALASKA OIL LINE COMPLETED AND WHICH COULD DESTROY B.C. FISHING INDUSTRY. HE ALSO ASKED IF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING RESTRICTIONS IN NUMBER OF LICENSES TO BE ISSUED TO NON-NATIONALS TO PARTICIPATE IN WEST COAST FISHING. FEDERAL RESPONSE WAS BY JACK DAVIS, MINISTER ENVIRONMENT AND FISHERIES, WHO STATED OTTAWA WARE B.C. PROBLEMS AND WOULD WORK WITH PROVINCE ON IMPROVING SITUATION. HE ALSO SAID CANADA HOPED TO EXTEND ITS FISHING LIMITS FURTHER SEAWARD AND THAT HE ANTICIPATED THE NUMBER OF VESSELS OWNED OR ASSOCIATED WITH NON-CANADIAN COMPANIES WOULD DIMINISH IN B.C. FISHING CIRCLES. HALL

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